

Queer Birds of Alaska.

During the cruise of the Corwin in Alaska, several downy young were collected by Mr. J. E. Lutz on Otter Island.

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The color of the downy plumage above is of a dark smoky gray; darker, nearly blackish on the head and sides of neck, chin, throat and foreneck of the same general color, scarcely paler; rest of the under surface light ash gray, with very slight if any fuliginous tinge, in strong contrast to the dark line of the upper parts and the neck, the darker line being very sharply defined.

The collector's label indicates the color of the feet as "bluish, very light between the toes, under side black." The iris is "dark gray."

Two other specimens agree very closely with the one described, except that in one the sides of the neck are considerably darker in the middle. The bills are scarcely shorter, but the tip even more abruptly truncate.

The bill of the crested auk agrees in general shape with that of the adults in winter before the curious nuptial out-growths have changed it so radically and is scarcely distinguishable from that of Simorhynchus pygmaeus of the corresponding age.

Color, dark horn brown, lighter on terminal half of lower mandible. The color of the downy plumage is a uniform dark, smoky and somewhat brownish gray, scarcely lighter on the under parts.

Two other specimens are on the whole similar to that just described, but the under parts are slightly lighter and grayer.—St. Louis Republic.

Glass Will Drill a Diamond.

The diamond, I believe, is generally cited as an example of the most indestructible substance, and it is usually thought that it cannot be worn away except by special appliances.

A Fisher Cat.

In the upper reservoir at Mountain View Cemetery are planted a large number of German carp—the fishes now ranging in size from four to seven inches in length.

A Joyous Occasion.

Someone has sown black wheat in Grove City College campus, which was recently sown with grass and planted with evergreens to make a beautiful lawn.

Neighbor—"Why, what are you celebrating, Pottingill! The fourth isn't here yet."

PENNSYLVANIA PICKINGS.

SOME IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS

Of Interest to Dwellers in the Keystone State.

J. P. LOCKE, a farmer of East Moravia, while driving to town, dropped dead in his wagon. When found life was extinct.

A SETTLEMENT was arrived at in the Hugh Curry arson case at Washington, whereby Hugh agrees to pay his brother Marion all the damage done by the fires and the cost of prosecution.

JAMES MAMMILL, aged 70 years, of North Beaver, while crossing a field was attacked by a large savage bull and gored to death.

Mrs. SOLOMON HAGAN, wife of a farmer living near Lock Haven, was killed by being thrown from a buggy in a runaway accident. Her daughter was with her, but escaped unhurt.

The water main broke at Monongahela City, crashed by the heavy rains of yesterday, and undermined the foundation of the Presbyterian church. The steeple and building are considered unsafe, as much that the families living nearby had to vacate their homes.

G. W. MULLOCH's house at Jeannette was struck and badly damaged by lightning. Mrs. Mulloch was hurled to the floor and stunned.

LEWIS SCHMIDT has been returned for keeping a wholesale liquor house without a license at Beaver Falls. He claims that he simply keeps beer in cold storage for people who order it from Pittsburgh.

A Mrs. Devonn was probably fatally injured at Monongahela City by being thrown from a buggy.

At Terons, Sunday night, a child of Jacob Bied fell into the Juniata river, which had overflowed its banks, and was drowned.

MAJOR LINCOLN'S barn near Blairsville, was struck by lightning and burned Sunday night. Loss, \$2,000. The Major is 98 years old.

While the people of New Silverbrook, Schuylkill county, were holding union services in the three-story schoolhouse at that place, lightning struck the building, badly shattering it and shocking six persons.

Three men named Gardner, Rabets and Miller are probably fatally injured. An eyewitness says a half of fire descended through the building.

NORTHERN less than a cloud-burst in the mountains above Uniontown could have sent down the terrible rush of waters that flooded the lower portions of this place and drove fully 50 families to higher places.

EDWARD McCROCKERY fell from a building at the Cambria Iron Works, Johnstown, and was fatally injured.

W. W. FINES, of Kittanning, was the successful candidate at the West Point cadetship examination held in Greensburg.

EDWARD McMICHAEL, the wife murderer, was hanged at Wilkesbarre. His neck was broken. He killed his wife while drunk, February 29, 1891.

The first fatal accident on the McKeesport and Reynolds electric railway happened Sunday afternoon, when Mary Horie, a five-year-old Polish girl, was struck and horribly mangled. The child was running down a hill and was going at such a speed that she could not stop and ran right on the car track in front of the car.

The farmers living along the Juniata river and the Laystown branch have sustained an immense loss to growing crops and fences by the floods of the other day. Creeks and rivulets were transformed suddenly into torrents and many families were imprisoned in their houses.

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An Austrian, an employe of the Turtle Creek Valley road, was drowned at Nolasburg.

While a boy named Joseph Holloway was riding in a passenger car on the Reading railroad near Boyersford, he grasped the branch of a tree from the car window. He was immediately drawn through the window and dashed on the track. His injuries are serious.

A REPORT of the State Board of Charities has exonerated the Huntingdon reformitory authorities in the charges made by Senator Osborn.

The Jury in the "General Siegel" Miller-Hochstetler murder case at Somerset Saturday morning rendered a verdict of murder in the second degree.

WILLIAM J. PARKHALL, of McLellanstown, fatally shot his wife, mistaking her for a burglar.

A SNEAK highwayman held up the Rev. Mr. Subert and his wife at Jeannette. Mr. Subert had no money, but his wife had and she gave it up.

An incendiary fire at Huntingdon destroyed several outbuildings on A. Ellis's farm together with two horses, three mules and eight head of cattle. Loss, \$4,500.

SOMEONE has sown black wheat in Grove City College campus, which was recently sown with grass and planted with evergreens to make a beautiful lawn.

A LARGE dog ran against Mrs. William Logan, knocking her down, at Beaver Falls Saturday. She died from internal injuries Thursday.

EDWARD DAVIS, an 11-year-old Monongahela City boy, was fatally injured by trying to board a moving coal train.

SOME colored men were shooting at a mark with a Robert rifle at Uniontown, when a bullet entered the window of Charles P. Austin's residence and struck Mr. Austin. It severed an artery near the heart and Mr. Austin lost a great deal of blood before it was closed by physicians. He will live.

THE 9-year-old son of Archie Fowler of Pine Run, Indiana county, was drowned while bathing.

A NONNAN entered the residence of H. B. Jarrett, a Scotland coal merchant, threw salt into the servant girl's eyes, bound and gagged her, and then ransacked the house. Many people started in pursuit of the bold fellow.

ORIGIN OF PENNSYLVANIA'S FLOOD AND HOLOCAUST.

Another Fish Dam Held to be Responsible for the Awful Calamity.

TITUSVILLE, June 8.—As in the case of Johnstown, it was another fish dam that caused the awful calamity at Titusville, Oil City and the entire valley of Oil Creek.

Over the divide, other dams have spread devastation, but with no loss of life. To-day I visited Spartansburg dam, the primary cause of this tremendous loss of life.

Like the South Fork body of water, which scattered death in Johnstown, the Spartansburg dam was a famous fishing ground. It was well stocked with bass and was a resort for sportsmen from Corry, Erie, Titusville and Western New York.

Heavy wire netting with small meshes had been put over the water weirs to prevent the bass from escaping, and this, more than anything else, caused the increased body of water to go away.

With the rising flood that the water was backed up sufficient to tear away a new course at the side of the real dam which still stands. Thus, it is the second great calamity in this valley, because a few people wanted a place to idle away their summer hours.

Spartansburg dam was built originally to furnish power for their grist mill. It is greater in extent than the South Fork dam. At the breast the real dam is scarcely over 100 feet wide and is still standing.

It was after the style of the South Fork, and it was not intended to overflow. It was above the wet dam and over the water weeds that the netting was stretched. This caught the drift and forced the water back until it overflowed the dry dykes and they melted like so much snow.

There was no cloud-burst there. D. N. Colegrove, editor of the Spartansburg paper, thus describes the growth of the flood.

"It had been raining heavily for several days. At 2:30 Saturday the rain ceased and fell in sheets. The dam was already swollen. From then until 10 o'clock it rained steadily. At 11 o'clock we could see it was eating away the walls at the side of the flume. The water was then over 20 feet deep all over the area above the wet dam and over the water weeds that the netting was stretched.

The flood swept everything below. The dams on the west branch of Oil Creek, as well as on Shirley creek, gave away, and the united forces of all these streams poured down on Titusville. The creek was carried into the town, and the Oil Creek valued at over \$20,000, while on the smaller creeks dozens of small wooden bridges were caught up and simply torn to pieces.

When the flood left Spartansburg dam it tore away the main street of the town, and the water was carried through Mill, Bell and Tanner. The hide house was swept away, and 1,000 skins were taken clear from there to Titusville.

The ground was literally eaten away from under the W. N. Y. P. tracks and the ties and rails were left hanging like a dead tree. The ground was torn from the hillside and carried down the stream. Every vestige of growth was cut off. Below was a beautiful meadow but from it everything had disappeared and now it is but a honey-combed waste.

The damage at Spartansburg is probably over \$100,000. The flood next night Lamb's dam and wooden mill about a mile below. It is gone. Added to this flood, was that from Shirley creek and Five Mile Run, where a dozen dams were washed away. J. M. Kerns mill is damaged and the bridge wrecked. Bridge at Patch's Hollow, where Shirley creek and Five Mile run and the Triple, as the third stream is known, all jam, the water was spread over a path 300 feet wide. Today it was a stream that scarcely more than 100 feet of water in depth and 200,000 feet of timber broke loose. D. L. Thomas, who has charge of Sheldahl Mine Spring there, had his house and barn floated off, but escaped with his life.

The loss in Oil Creek valley can hardly be estimated. It is at least \$400,000 worth of bridges have been swept away, some, in many instances, being completely ruined by the flood. In Spartansburg it was reported that at Riceville, on the west branch of Oil Creek, a dam had burst and that two men had been drowned. The child was run down a hill and was going at such a speed that she could not stop and ran right on the car track in front of the car.

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Upon this line of defense was the fort on Temperance Hill, occupied by the 24th Ind. and the Elgin (Ill.) batteries. The Ninth Corps was on the west and southwest of the city, while Col. Sanders' dismounted infantry were on the south, their left resting on the right of Fort Sanders; Lieut. S. N. Benjamin's Regular battery, U. S. Art., to Fort Sanders; Maj. Roemer's battery (L) to the fort on College Hill, east of Fort Sanders; city which completed the investment of the city south to the river.

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MARKETS.

Table with columns for various commodities like WHEAT, CORN, RYE, etc., and their prices.

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THE LAST SAD RITES.

Patheic Scenes at the Cemeteries. Many Occupy Places in a Common Tomb.

On Wednesday rain extinguished the fires at Oil City. They had burned for 24 hours and the property of the city was being destroyed. Merchants contributed liberally to the relief of the destitute. Two hundred men started to clear away the debris. Tramps arrived in large numbers and terrorized the citizens. The total relief fund amounts so far to \$42,000. The relief fund is being raised by the Relief Committee. Three more bodies were recovered. The total list of missing to date is 61. Sixty-five per cent. of the relief fund is to be spent here and there at Oil City.

THE TITUSVILLE DEAD.

Authentic List of the Unfortunates Who Lost Their Lives. Names of Those Who Are Missing and Unaccounted For.

TITUSVILLE, Pa., June 11.—This is the only authentic, official and perfect list of the dead and missing as furnished by C. N. Payne, who had personal supervision of the work. It is as follows:

- Mrs. Mary Haehn, P. Reide, and two children. George Pease. Mrs. C. P. Casperson. Mrs. Jacob Bingenheimer and infant child. Mrs. William Kopp, 3 days old. Mrs. Furman (colored) and John Willie. Miss Amelia Furman (colored). Miss Lillie Foster. Frank Foster. Mrs. Margaret Quinn. Miss Annie Quinn. Fred Lisers. Mrs. Lena Omar and two children. Mrs. Nellie McKinnie. Oliver Egwart. Mrs. Jameson. Golden Cohen. Harry Butler. Mrs. Jacobs and child. Mrs. F. Campbell and Henry Reith, of Buffalo. Frank C. Campbell. Mrs. Johanna Canty.

In the above list is included the Englesky child found Thursday afternoon, making 54 in all.

A Pointed Publication.

Totling—"There is more point to a paper of pins than to any other paper published." Dimling—"And more head than to a good many."—Detroit Free Press.

A HARVARD SENIOR reads base-ball scores at eight.—Puck.

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